Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Dinar exchange is step forward to new Iraqi economy

Story and photos by Spc. Ryan Smith, 372nd MPAD

BAGHDAD, Iraq - - Until recently, Iraqis had no choice but to carry a little reminder of Saddam in their pockets—a picture of his face is printed on Iraqi money.

That changed, however, when the Central Bank of Iraq issued the "new" dinar and made it available for exchange at banks and other official locations throughout the country beginning Oct. 15.

The introduction of the new dinar is a significant step in Iraq's progression away from the former regime, according to Capt. Mark St. Laurent, brigade action officer for the Iraqi currency exchange program.

St. Laurent is a civil affairs officer with the 354th Civil Affairs Brigade, an Army Reserve unit from Riverdale, Md., part of Task Force 1st Armored Division.

"Replacing the Saddam dinar signals the end of the old regime. Saddam will no longer be seen as an everyday figure," he said.

"It also shows the establishment of a new government and that the Central Bank is in control of the economy."

In line with the shift toward a new government in Iraq, coalition forces are playing only a minor role in the currency exchange, providing security when needed at exchange sites to protect the safety of the citizens and the money itself, St. Laurent said.

According to a Coalition Provision Authority release, the new dinar will unify the currency across Iraq.

The new notes are printed on higher quality paper than the old, and contain several security devices, such as a watermark, an



Tellers at the Adamihya Commercial Bank of Iraq count and exchange old Iraqi currency for the new dinars in Baghdad Oct. 18. The new currency is one of the first steps toward rebuilding the Iraqi economy, officials say.

embedded security strip, and textured ink.

People can exchange their old Saddam dinars for the new ones at a rate of one for one.

However, the former national dinar, known as the Swiss dinar, which is used mainly in the north of Iraq, is worth 150 new dinars.

"This is good for the people of Iraq," said Dr. Mohamed Jasim, who exchanged his money at the Adamihya Commercial Bank of Iraq Oct. 18. "The paper is better; the money will last longer. It is a symbol of moving forward."

The exchange continues from Oct. 15 to Jan. 15, 2004.

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NEWS

Bush Pushes N. Korea Issue at Asia Summit

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) - President Bush pushed North Korea's nuclear threat to the forefront of a 21-nation summit Monday and the communist country shoved back with a missile test. Some leaders complained that security issues were dominating the meeting's stated economic agenda. The leaders took up a major economic dispute and agreed to revive global trade liberalization talks that collapsed recently in Mexico. They did not offer a formula to break the impasse but directed negotiators go back to work on the text they had left behind.

Sniper Suspect Makes Case to Va. Jury

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (AP) - Sniper suspect John Allen Muhammad won the right to act as his own lawyer Monday in a surprise, last-minute request at his murder trial, then broke a year of stony silence with a rambling opening statement in which he assured jurors, "I had nothing to do with these crimes." It was not clear why Muhammad decided to fire his lawyers, who will serve as standby counsel. Just last week, Muhammad told Circuit Judge LeRoy F. Millette Jr. that he was satisfied with his attorneys.

Box Cutter Suspect Charged, Released

BALTIMORE (AP) - A college student who told authorities he placed box cutters and other banned items aboard two airliners to test security was charged Monday with taking a dangerous weapon aboard an aircraft and was released without bail. Nathaniel Heatwole, 20, told federal agents he went through normal security procedures at airports in Baltimore and Raleigh-Durham, N.C. Once aboard, he said he hid the banned items in compartments in the planes' rear lavatories.

Alda Recovering From Emergency Surgery

LA SERENA, Chile (AP) - Actor Alan Alda was recovering well Monday after an emergency surgery for an intestinal obstruction, a hospital official reported. Alda, who starred in the 1970s and early 80s TV series "M-A-S-H," was operated on Sunday at the Regional Hospital in La Serena, 300 miles north of the capital of Santiago.

SAFETY

SPEEDING MAY BECOME NECESSARY IN A HOSTILE SITUATION. HOWEVER, IT CAN BECOME THE ENEMY IN EVERY DAY DRIVING!

THE FOLLOWING SPEED LIMITS WILL BE OBEYED UNLESS IN AN EMERGENCY SITUATION:

SPEED LIMIT:

- ON LOCAL HIGHWAYS 50 MPH
- ON DOWNTOWN STREETS 30 MPH
- ON FOB PERIMETER ROADS 30 MPH
- NEAR FOB OFFICES OR LSAs 10 MPH
- WHEN PASSING TROOPS 10 MPH

STATESIDE

N.J. Town Has Fun With Speed Limit Signs

MOUNT HOLLY, N.J. (AP) -- The familiar black and white speed limit signs in some rural parts of Burlington County aren't getting drivers to slow down. They're also not getting any laughs.

Officials believe new signs going up on a few roads should do both.

The signs include messages like "Free Speeding Tickets Ahead" and "Meet Our Judge - Exceed 25 mph."

Vincent Farias, a Burlington County freeholder, saw similar signs in Long Beach Township and thought they might work in Burlington County too.

"The signs are designed to attract attention by employing humor to make people more aware of speed limits." Farias said.

The signs are destined for places where speeding is a persistent problem.

The brightly colored signs are scheduled to go up next week along county roads in Shamong and Medford Lakes.

If they reduce speeding, they might be put up elsewhere in the county, Farias said.

Chaplain's Thought for the Day: Speak That Word

There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword, but the tongue of the wise promotes health. — Proverbs 12:18

In Charles Dickens' novel David Copperfield, young David returns from a happy visit with friends to find his widowed mother remarried to Edward Murdstone, a harsh and domineering man.

Mr. Murdstone and his permanently visiting sister Jane set out to conquer David's spirit through cruel punishment and intimidation.

Early in the process, David describes his feelings: "I might have been improved for my whole life, I might have been made another creature by a kind word."

Copperfield desired so much to hear a word of encouragement, of understanding, and of reassurance that he was still welcome at home.

He was sure that any act of kindness would help him respect and obey Mr. Murdstone. But to his dismay, no words of encouragement were ever given.

The tragedy of not speaking a kind word to a fearful and worried heart is as old as time.

Wise King Solomon wrote: "There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword, but the tongue of the wise promotes health" (Proverbs 12:18).

Kind words can give a lift to a heavy heart.

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The Associated Press Top 25							
	Team	Recor d	Points	Prev			
1.	OKLAHOMA (62)	7-0	1,622	1			
2.	MIAMI FLA (3)	7-0	1,558	2			
3.	VIRGINIA TECH	6-0	1,498	3			
4.	GEORGIA	6-1	1,394	4			
5.	USC	6-1	1,378	5			
6.	(tie) FLORIDA ST	6-1	1,213	7			
6.	(tie) WASHINGTON ST	6-1	1,213	6			
8.	OHIO ST	6-1	1,161	8			
9.	LSU	6-1	1,087	10			
10.	PURDUE	6-1	957	13			
11.	MICHIGAN ST	7-1	918	15			
12.	NORTHERN ILL	7-0	885	12			
13.	MICHIGAN	6-2	744	17			
14.	NEBRASKA	6-1	732	18			
15.	TCU	7-0	685	16			
16.	IOWA	5-2	623	9			
17.	AUBURN	5-2	593	19			
18.	OKLAHOMA ST	6-1	467	23			
19.	TEXAS	5-2	435	20			
20.	WISCONSIN	6-2	402	14			
21.	ARKANSAS	4-2	331	11			
22.	TENNESSEE	4-2	295	21			
23.	BOWLING GREEN	6-1	189				
24.	UTAH	6-1	171				
25.	FLORIDA	5-3	156				

Others Receiving Votes:
TEXAS TECH 60, MISSOURI 58, MIAMI OHIO 55, PITTSBURGH 55, MARYLAND 45,
MINNESOTA 41, MISSISSIPPI 30, LOUISVILLE 27, UCLA 17, BOISE ST 11, OREGON ST 11,
KANSAS 3, KANSAS ST 3, SYRACUSE 1, WASHINGTON 1

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myafn.	net TV SCHEDULES: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2	1, 2003		As of:	Tuesday, October 21, 2003 12:22	2:15 AM
Start Time	<u>SPORTS</u>	ATLANTIC.	SPECTRUM.	PACIFIC	NEWS.	Start Time
0:00	AROUND THE HORN		SLEEPY HOLLOW	TODAY	DATELINE NBC	0:00
0:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION	THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN				0:30
1:00	SPORTSCENTER				HEADLINE NEWS	1:00
1:30		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD			NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	1:30
2:00		ESPNEWS	RUGRATS: - HE SAW, SHE SAW/ PIGGY'S PIZZA PALACE	SESAME STREET	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT	2:00
2:30	PWBA (BOWLING) - PBA GREATER KANSAS CITY	MONDAY NIGHT COUNTDOWN	SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS : - JUST ONE BITE! THE		CBS EVENING NEWS	2:30
3:00	CLASSIC		BULLY	PRI 0011 TILLED - 11111 TILLED - 111111 TILLED - 11111 TILLED - 111111 TILLED - 11111 TILLED - 1		3:00
3:30			THE SIM PSON: - MOM AND POPART	DRAGON TALES: - BULLY FOR YOU	THE NEWSHOUR	3:30
4:00			HOME IMPROVEMENT: - BLOW UP	WHEEL OF FORTUNE		4:00
5:00	RACING - AMERICAN LE MANS SERIES	MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL - CHIEFS @ RAIDERS	J.A.G. : - THE PROMISED LAND COMEDY CENTRAL PRESENTS: USO COMEDY	THE DR. PHIL SHOW THE OPRAH WINFEY SHOW: - BARBRA STREISAND	HANNITY & COLMES	5:00
5.00			TOUR	PERFORMS	THE NEWS WITH BRIAN WILLIAMS	5.00
6:00			BIOGRAPHY: - MARTHA STEWART	NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	BET NIGHTLY NEWS	6:00
6:30	ESPNEWS			JUDGE JUDY	NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT	6:30
7:00	BEST DAMN SPORTS SHOW PERIOD		MR. HOLLAND'S OPUS	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	LARRY KING LIVE	7:00
7:25				GUIDING LIGHT		7:25
7:30		HEADLINE NEWS				7:30
8:00	THE SPORTS REPORTERS PRIMETIME	SESAME STREET			NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN	8:00
8:13				GENERAL HOSPITAL	1	8:13
8:30	54321					8:30
9:00	ESPNEWS	DRAGON TALES: - BULLY FOR YOU		HAPPILY EVER AFTER: - THE SNOW QUEEN	PAULA ZAHN NOW	9:00
9:30				WHAT'S NEW SCOBY DOO? : - SHE SEES SEA	FAULA ZAIN NOW	9:30
	ESPNEWS	WHEEL OF FORTUNE	EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES	M ONSTER AT THE SEA SHORE		
10:00	NHL - PANTHERS @ NY RANGERS	THE OPRAH WINFEY SHOW: - BARBRA STREISAND PERFORMS	RUGRATS: - HE SAW, SHE SAW/ PIGGY'S PIZZA PALACE	LIZZIE M CGUIRE : - GORDO AND THE GIRL	NIGHTLINE	10:00
10:30			SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS: - JUST ONE BITE! THE	ALL THAT	AIR FORCE TV NEWS	10:30
11:00			BULLY			11:00
11:25		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	THE SIM PSON: - MOM AND POPART	JEOPARDYI	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS	11:25
11:30		GUIDING LIGHT				11:30
			HOME IMPROVEMENT: - BLOW UP	HEADLINE NEWS		
11:52				PACIFIC REPORT		11:52
12:00			J.A.G. : - THE PROMISED LAND	ESPNEWS	CBS NEWS SPECIAL - PROD YEAR 2003	12:00
12:13		GENERAL HOSPITAL				12:13
12:30	SPORTSCENTER			HEADLINE NEWS		12:30
12:52				PACIFIC REPORT		12:52
13:00		HEADLINE NEWS	JOE MILLIONAIRE	MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL - WEEK 7: CHIEFS @	THE O'REILLY FACTOR	13:00
13:30	NASCAR WINSTON CUP SERIES - SUBWAY 500	JUDGE JUDY		RAIDERS		13:30
14:00	NAGOAR WINGTON COP SERIES - SOBWAY SO	TODAY	BIOGRAPHY: - MARTHA STEWART		GOOD MORNING AMERICA	14:00
15:00		TODAT	MR. HOLLAND'S OPUS		GOOD M ORNING AMERICA	15:00
16:00		HARRING EVER A ETER . THE ONOW OUTEN	MR. HOLLAND'S OPUS	FORMEWO	UEA DUNE NEWO	16:00
16:30		HAPPILY EVER AFTER: - THE SNOW QUEEN WHAT'S NEW SCOOBY DOO?: - SHE SEES SEA		ESPNEWS	HEADLINE NEWS	16:30
		MONSTER AT THE SEA SHORE		HEADLINE NEWS	CHANNEL ONE	10.50
16:45					WORLD NEWS THIS MORNING	16:45
16:52				PACIFIC REPORT		16:52
17:00		LIZZIE M CGUIRE: - GORDO AND THE GIRL		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO	THE EARLY SHOW	17:00
17:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION	ALL THAT	EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES			17:30
18:00	SPORTSCENTER	JEOPARDYI	RUGRATS: - HE SAW, SHE SAW/ PIGGY'S PIZZA PALACE	THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN		18:00
18:30		HEADLINE NEWS	SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS : - JUST ONE BITE! THE			18:30
19:00			BULLY			19:00
19:30	NFL FILM'S PRESENTS - LOST TREASURES VOLUME VI	ESPNEWS	THE SIM PSON: - MOM AND POPART	THE SIXTH SENSE	FOX NEWS LIVE	19:30
20:00	NEL MAKE WEEK TWANCA COURT OF THE OUT OF THE	HEADLINE NEWS	HOM E IM PROVEMENT: - BLOW UP			
	NFL - MNF - WEEK 7: KANSAS CITY CHIEFS @ OAKLAND RAIDERS	SM ALLVILLE: - VORTEX (PT. 2)	J.A.G. : - THE PROMISED LAND		FOX NEWS	20:00
21:00		MISSION IMPOSSIBLE II	JOE MILLIONAIRE	THE FIRST WIVES CLUB	FOX NEWS LIVE	21:00
22:00			BIOGRAPHY: - MARTHA STEWART		STUDIO B WITH SHEPARD SMITH	22:00
23:00	ESPNEWS		MR. HOLLAND'S OPUS	HEADLINE NEWS	INSIDE POLITICS	23:00
23:15		HEADLINE NEWS			1	23:15
23:30	ESPNEWS			ESPNEWS	AIR FORCE TV NEWS	23:30